

# SICC MEETING MINUTES

Truman Building, Room 400

January 13, 2006

## **Members Present**

Leslie Elpers  
Joan Harter  
Valeri Lane  
Elizabeth Spagh

Kathy Fuger  
Sharon Hailey  
Sheryl Taylor  
Debby Parsons

Katherine Sapp  
Kathy Daulton  
Pamela Speers

## **Members Not Present**

Melinda Sanders  
Dr. Patsy Carter  
Ronald Roberts

Doug Omen  
Darin Preis  
Sue Allen

Ronald Roberts  
Kim Oligschlaeger

## **DESE Staff Present**

Bill Connelly  
Margaret Strecker  
Dale Carlson

Pam Williams  
Kate Numerick  
Mary Corey

To review copies of handouts mentioned in the minutes below, go to the following website:  
<http://dese.mo.gov/divspeced/FirstSteps/SICCMtgdates.htm> and click on "Handouts" for the January 13, 2006 meeting.

## **Call to Order, Welcome, and Introductions**

Joan Harter called the meeting to order at 8:50 a.m.

**Approval of SICC Minutes** – Kathy Fuger made a motion to approve the minutes with the following changes. Pamela Speers seconded the motion. Motion passed.

A correction to November Meeting Minutes is as follows:

Travel Reimbursement – The Medicaid rate structure does not support a separate rate for mileage reimbursement to providers. Medicaid has two rates for therapy reimbursement. \$10.00 per 15 minute unit for services provided in the traditional setting, and additional \$2.50 per 15 minute unit for services provided in the natural environment.

## **Approval of the State Performance Plan (SPP) Final Report**

The SICC discussed the adoption of the SPP as their annual report to the Governor. The Co-Chairs will sign a certification sheet adopting the SPP. Kathy Fuger made a motion to approve the SPP as the SICC annual report with an addendum to Indicator 4. Leslie Elpers seconded. Motion passed. Debby Parsons abstained.

The addendum is as follows:

The recommendation of the SICC is to add an additional Improvement Activity to Indicator #4, as follows:

Explore more effective research designs in the collection of family outcome data. Considerations for strengthening the data collected could include random sampling, phone interviews, and/or focus groups targeting representative samples of the population served.

### **Special Presentations**

**National Perspective Child Outcomes** – Kate Numerick gave a Power Point presentation. Refer to the handouts of the presentation. One of the handouts discusses where other states are in this process and the assessment tools used to gather information.

- **Primary Coach Model** – Stacey Ismail and Charla Myer gave a Power Point presentation. Refer to the handouts of the presentation. A brief discussion was held. Other states that are implementing the Primary Coach Model include Georgia, Illinois, Oklahoma, Kansas, and Florida.

### **Reports/Updates**

**Appointments** – Mary Beth Luna, Policy Analyst, indicated that the appointments to the SICC are in process and she believes the appointment letters are awaiting signature from Governor Blunt.

Mary Beth was asked about the Governor’s Review Commission’s recommendation to move First Steps from DESE to DHSS. Mary Beth said that she has not heard that there will be any changes made.

**Budget/Finance** – Dale Carlson indicated there were no significant changes in the budget. The only issue that may be problematic is the First Steps fund, which legislation named incorrectly in the appropriations. An adjustment was made to accommodate for FY 2007. The adjusted supplemental request went from 2.1 million (current year) to 1.6 million.

**WebSPOE** – Mary Corey gave a handout that listed the priorities for system changes as well as updates that have been made to the system in the last few months. It was noted that the system timeout has been changed to 90 minutes.

**Family Cost Participation** – Dale Carlson gave a Power Point presentation. Refer to the handouts of the presentation. A brief discussion was held to emphasize that development is proceeding on this very complex system. DESE is setting up guidelines to assist the SPOEs in the family cost participation decision making process.

**Insurance** - Dale Carlson indicated that development is proceeding on the private insurance reimbursement process. A concern was brought up that a carrier had contacted a family indicating that the family would be required to pay co-pay/deductibles for First Steps services. Dale reiterated that within the Part C system, families would not be responsible for co-pays and deductibles. First Steps will continue to pay for all services as the service is billed to the CFO, as it has in the past. The state will pay any applicable co-pay or deductibles through the private insurance billing process.

**Transition of Phase II SPOEs** – Debby Parsons provided an update on the SPOE transition process. The following steps are being implemented:

- A conference call was conducted with the new SPOE directors
- A conference call was conducted with the old SPOE directors

- A website was established by DESE for the posting of all messages regarding the SPOE transition process.
- Training for new SPOE directors will be conducted in Jefferson City the week of January 23<sup>rd</sup>.
- A letter to families, Service Coordinators, and Providers was posted on the web. The family letter will also be sent to families by the CFO
- The old SPOEs and the new SPOEs are working together to assign service coordinators and provide a smooth transition for the families.
- Joyce Jackman, Director of Funds Management, will be developing guidance for the SPOEs to transfer equipment and hard copy data files.
- The CFO will shutdown both data systems from January 27<sup>th</sup> to February 6<sup>th</sup>. List serve messages were sent to the SPOEs on procedures to follow during the data system shutdown.

### **RICC/LICC Success Stories**

Margaret Pickett, Director of the Greater St. Louis SPOE, gave a brief report on their RICC. She said they are very active, well developed, and have members that are represented from the medical and legislative community.

### **Additional Agenda Items:**

A question was raised about the \$30 charge for each training module. According to previous reports, estimated training costs were approximately \$316 per participant. Current training cost is approximately \$4 per participant per module. It was suggested that the cost be eliminated. DESE will research the cost of modules and what the plans are to use the additional funds for (e.g. new modules) and will report to the SICC in the March 2006 meeting.

### **New Business**

Schedule Future Meetings – Discussion was held to change the SICC meeting from Friday to Thursday and the SPOE director meetings every four months on Friday. The following dates have been scheduled:

SICC	SPOE
March 2, 2006	March 3, 2006
May 11, 2006	May 12, 2006
July 13, 2006	
September 14, 2006	September 15, 2006
November 16, 2006	
January 11, 2007	January 12, 2007
March 8, 2007	
May 10, 2007	May 11, 2007

Sharon Hailey was nominated to draft a written request to Governor Blunt asking for there to be a First Steps day to be established during the Week of the Young Child.

Debby Parsons' retirement, effective January 31, 2006, was announced.

### **Agenda Items for Next Meeting**

Week of the Young Child update  
 Module Cost update – Kate Numerick  
 OHCDs -  
 Budget – Dale Carlson  
 WebSPOE – Mary Corey  
 Part C Application – Pam Williams  
 Sunshine Law – Heidi Atkins-Lieberman

**Adjourn**

Sharon Hailey made a motion to adjourn. Leslie Elpers seconded the motion. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 3:15 p.m.